



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Elko District Office

3900 Idaho Street

Elko, Nevada 89801-4211

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/elko_field_office.html



In Reply Refer To:
8120/9214 (NVE0300)

Dear Reader:

On January 14th, 2011 the Wells Field Office Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released a public scoping letter for the Spruce Mountain Restoration Project. The BLM received several public comment letters on the proposed project. The BLM used comments received during the scoping process to develop a proposed action and alternatives for the Spruce Mountain Restoration Project within the Spruce Allotment.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Spruce Mountain Restoration Project (DOI-BLM-NV-E000-2011-0501-EA) is available for public online at <http://on.doi.gov/elkoBLM>. Hardcopies are available upon request from the Elko District Office.

The Spruce Mountain Restoration Project is proposed to:

- Reduce the expansion of pinyon-juniper woodlands.
- Promote healthy forests by removing stressed and diseased trees.
- Reduce hazardous fuels to reduce the threat of large-scale wildland fire.
- Restore and maintain healthy rangelands and wildlife habitat.
- Protect historic pinyon-juniper woodlands.
- Reduce that amount of invasive weeds throughout the project area.
- Restore previous wildfire damaged areas with desired vegetation.
- Protect cultural resources within the project area.

The EA analyzed the effects of the proposed project within the Spruce Mountain area of the Spruce Allotment, located in southeastern Elko County. The proposed project encompasses 10,000 acres of public lands.

The proposed treatment types analyzed in the EA consider:

- Prescribed Fire and Management of Wildfire.
- Mechanical methods:
 - Hand thinning.
 - Mastication/Chaining.
 - Green woodcutting.
- Herbicide application on invasive non-native weeds.
- Seeding and Seed Bed Preparation.

This EA is available for public review through Friday, March 2nd, 2012. Comments related to this EA can be sent to: Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Matt Murphy, 3900 E. Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801; faxed to (775) 753-0315; or emailed to Spruce_Mt_Rest@blm.gov Following this review period, BLM will issue a proposed and final decision.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be advised that your entire comment- including your personal identifying information- may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have any questions on this matter or are unable to access the documents online and require a hard copy, please contact Matt Murphy, BLM Natural Resource Specialist, at (775) 753-0200.

Sincerely,

/s/

Bryan K. Fuell, Manager
Wells Field Office